GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:138
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016
Privatisation of Water Resources
Shekhawat Shri Gajendra Singh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of water resources that have been transferred from the public sector to private sector during the last as well as current plan period, State-wise;

(b) whether privatisation of water resources have recorded an improvement in water services in the country, and if so, the details and extent thereof; and

(c) whether the private sector is regulated with defined acts/rules and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *138 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.11.2016 REGARDING PRIVATISATION OF WATER RESOURCES.

(a) to (c) Water being a State subject, the State at all levels holds water in public trust for the people. Measures including management and distribution of water resources are taken by the State Governments in their respective States. Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing technical and financial assistance through various schemes / programmes.

State Governments/ local bodies are empowered to make such regulations on water as is necessary for its efficient management / distribution which, inter-alia, include inviting private investment in infrastructure projects, such as water supply, sewerage, etc.

The National Water Policy, 2012, inter-alia, stipulates that Water resources projects and services should be managed with community participation. For improved service delivery on sustainable basis, the State Governments / urban local bodies may associate private sector in public private partnership mode. In this process, the prices and service standards would be subjected to regulatory control, with penalties for failure, as well as full accountability to democratically elected local bodies.

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